

the fruit cluster, yet excludes insects and birds, provides a windbreak, and partially shades said bunch;

(d) said fabric made of water-repellant, UV resistant fiber; and

(e) means for anchoring the top of said bag to the fruitstalk of said bunch.

Claim 2, rewrite Claim 2 (amended) as follows:

2. (amended) The cover of claim 1 wherein said fabric is white, woven, open-mesh polyester having a weight of 86 to 113 grams per square meter (2.5 to 3.3 ounces per square yard).

Claim 3, rewrite Claim 3 (amended) as follows:

3. (amended) The cover of claim 1 wherein said fabric has a cloth count of approximately 13 warps by 10 fills per square centimeter (32 warps by 26 fills per square inch).

Claim 4, cancel.

Claim 6, rewrite Claim 6 (amended) as follows:

6. (amended) A method for protecting Deglet Noor dates from birds, rain, insects, wind, and sunburn, while on the palm, which comprises the steps of:

(a) providing a cover for said dates, said cover being in the shape of a bag, said bag being of ample size to enclose a bunch and composed of a flexible fabric which allows free circulation of air throughout the fruit cluster, yet excludes insects and birds, provides a windbreak, and partially shades said bunch, said fabric being made of water-repellant, UV resistant fiber;

(b) slipping said bag over the bunch;

[(c) positioning said bag such that the bottom of said bag is a few inches below the bottom of said bunch;]

(d) puckering the middle portion of said bag around the bottom of the fruitstalk;

(e) providing means for anchoring approximately the middle of said bag in a tightly closed condition around the bottom of said fruitstalk, so as to completely enclose said bunch; and

(f) folding down and over the top of said bunch the portion of said bag protruding above where

Dr. Denis said bag is anchored to said fruitstalk, so as to form an umbrella-like structure, such that the upper portion of said bunch is shaded, and said fruit cluster is protected from rain.

A clean version of the entire set of pending claims is attached along with the substitute specification.

Very respectfully,

S. P. Denis

Stephen Paul Denis, Applicant Pro Se